

Health Equity Issues – Tobacco Cessation



Smoking Costs to KanCare

- \$84.4 million in state funds spent in KanCare for 2014 on smoking-related chronic disease (Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids)
- Estimated 20% of Kansans smoke, but estimates are higher in Medicaid – about 32% (RTI International, April 2014)
- Over 45% of adults with serious mental illness in Kansas smoke (RTI International, April 2014)

Utilization of KanCare Coverage

- Only 10% of all Medicaid smokers received cessation medications (L. Ku, et al., *Health Affairs*, January 2016)
- In 2015, almost 500,000 KanCare beneficiaries
- In KanCare, the percentage of beneficiaries who used cessation medications or counseling -
 - 2013: .07%
 - 2014: .08%

Use of KanCare Value Added Services

- Two MCOs offer additional smoking cessation counseling to KanCare members

Year	Amerigroup Members	Sunflower Members
2013	605	95
2014	154	579

Improving Utilization of Existing Services

- Targeting and informing providers
- Targeting and informing beneficiaries
- Collaborating with other tobacco cessation efforts
- Obtaining data on who the tobacco users are

Contact Information

Becky Ross, Medicaid Initiatives Coordinator
Division of Health Care Finance
Kansas Department of Health & Environment
rross@kdheks.gov
<http://www.kancare.ks.gov>



www.kancare.ks.gov